

DD / S REGISTRY  
FILE *Training 6*

STATINTL

Executive Director-Comptroller

Bill:

This memorandum is in response to your question relayed to us by

By way of clarification of the final sentence in paragraph 5, the 228 students receiving MC and AIS yearly take care of the demand even though there are many eligible employees who are never nominated for either course. Increased emphasis on this type and level of training would require adjustments in content and instructional techniques to train the greater number of students.

*5/18/72*  
Robert S. Wattles

24 MAR 1972

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DD/S 72-1128: Memo dtd 22 Mar 72 to ExDir-Compt fm A-D/TR, subj: Midcareer Course and Advanced Intelligence Seminar:; What's the Difference?

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22 MAR 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director-Comptroller

SUBJECT : Midcareer Course and Advanced Intelligence  
Seminar: What's the Difference?

1. Your query about the difference between these two programs is well taken; this is a subject to which the Curriculum Council has given considerable attention as part of its on-going review of our courses. Let me say, first, what we think are the significant characteristics of each.
2. The Midcareer Course (MC) is aimed primarily at the GS-12/13 officer, in the 30-40 year age group, who has served perhaps 5 to 15 years in the Agency and could benefit from a broader outlook and understanding of overall Agency activities than his working assignments generally have allowed. These criteria are not applied rigidly, however, and older, more senior officers frequently have been enrolled. The substantive thrust of the MC program is inward, an in-depth, comprehensive review of Agency responsibilities and functions. It provides limited coverage of the Intelligence Community and of foreign policy and domestic problems impinging on intelligence. The MC includes the one-week Managerial Grid and a week's field trip to strategic military and space installations as part of the six-week package.
3. The Advanced Intelligence Seminar (AIS), on the other hand, is designed for the older, more experienced officer, GS-14 and above; several supergrade officers have attended this program since its inception in 1969. Conducted for only three weeks, it is a true seminar calling for considerable involvement on the part of participants whose combined experience is substantial. Formal presentations, by Agency officers as well as outside guest speakers, are fewer than in the MC and there is no attempt at comprehensive coverage of the

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Agency as such. Rather, the thrust of the AIS is outward toward the Intelligence Community and major external factors affecting intelligence. It also endeavors to be forward looking with regard to the role of intelligence in the coming decade.

4. Having noted these differences, let me also say that the Curriculum Council has more than toyed with the idea of recommending the merger of these two programs as a reconstituted Midcareer Course, particularly in view of the development of the new Senior Seminar. It may be possible to mount a better program by combining three two-week packages which could be taken as a whole or separately, depending upon the need of the customer. The first two-week block would be devoted to a review of the Agency and the Intelligence Community with an emphasis on changes and trends. The second two-week package would consist of an exposure to domestic problems which bear importantly on the Agency's role and the third two-week block would deal with those international problems which concern us as intelligence officers.

5. We are continuing to consider the relationship of these three programs, i. e., the Midcareer Course, the Advanced Intelligence Seminar, and the Senior Seminar, but for the time being it seems the better part of wisdom to leave intact the format of so successful a course as the MC. The AIS, it seems to us, is a logical followup to the MC for an officer, but only after an interval of three or more years. Certainly, when it is recognized that there are only four runnings of the MC a year, for a total of 128 students, and four runnings of the AIS, for a total of 100 participants, we are not able to provide opportunity at these levels of Agency experience for anywhere near the number of officers eligible.

[Redacted Signature]

Acting Director of Training

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(DATE)